

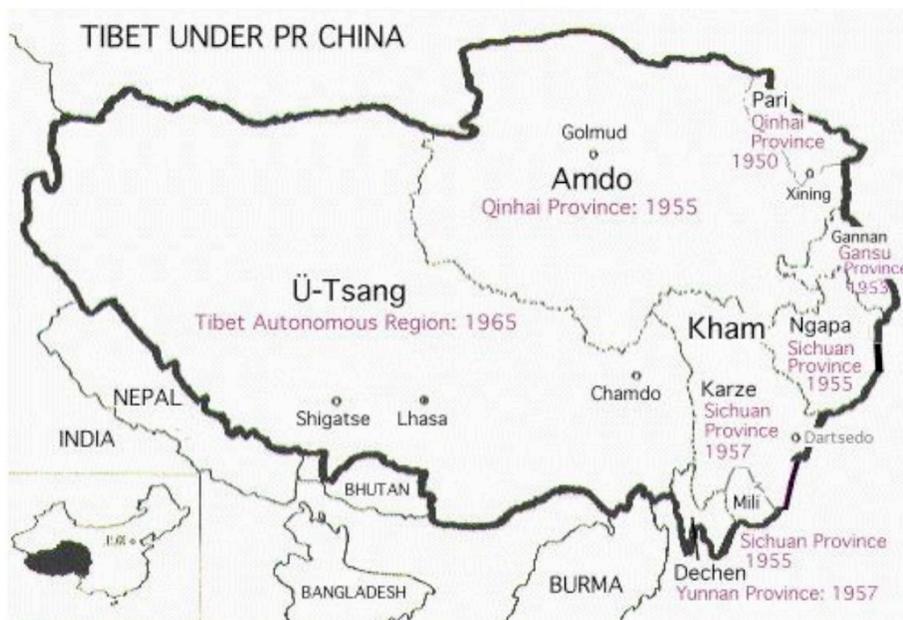
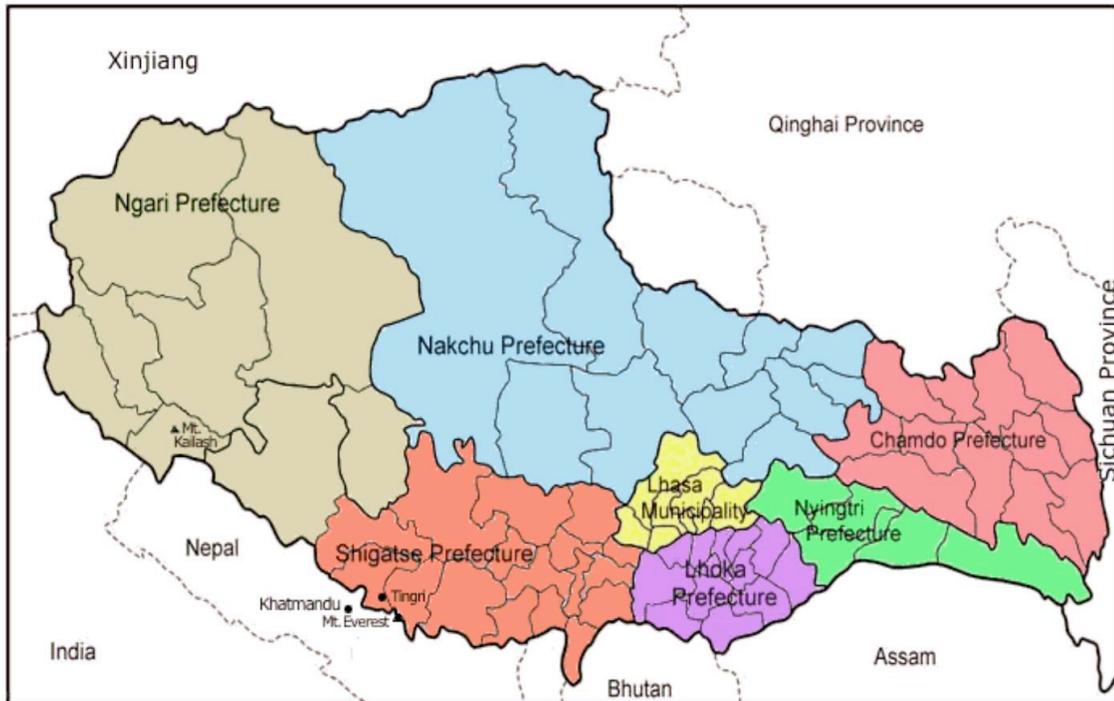


CCAS

Centre for China Analysis & Strategy

中国分析及策略中心

TIBET INSIGHT, JANUARY 1-15 2018



TAR NEWS

Stability Inspections in Lhasa

January 08, 2018

The Executive Vice Chairman of TAR Party Committee and the Chairman of TAR Stability Maintenance Department, Zhuagyan Zai made an investigative tour to the Stability Prevention and Control Centres in Lhasa on January 06, 2018. He examined the work reports presented by the officials and deployed new stability maintenance measures.

Zhuagyan Zai inspected areas in and around the Potala Palace Square Police Station, Jokhang Temple Square, Public Security Bureaus etc to see whether stability maintenance measures were being implemented. He also met cadres and masses during the inspection. He thanked the party cadres/officials behalf of the TAR Party Committee and asked them to uphold their good work in maintaining stability. He also urged them to implement the policy decisions/measures set by the TAR Party Committee and TAR Government to the entire district and grass root party organs. He particularly directed them to improve the implementation of measures against “separatist struggles “and strengthen social stability. He further added that Lhasa, being the capital of Tibet, should be given the first priority of stability and security.

Active Development of Foreign Trade in our Region

December 26, 2017

According to customs statistics, in the first three quarters of this year, foreign trade import and export value of Tibet Autonomous Region was 4.728 billion Yuan, growth of 22.1% as compared to the same period last year. Among them, the total export value was 2.132 billion Yuan, reduced by 2.5%; total import value was 2.596 billion Yuan, growth of 54.1% and the trade deficit of 464 million Yuan. "In the first three quarters of this year, the total import and export of Tibetan airlines amounted to 1.221 billion Yuan, an increase of 6.7%, which accounted for 25.8% of the total import and export," concerned official from Lhasa Customs introduced.

TAR invest 4.33 million yuan for “Cultural Industry”

January 10, 2018

As part of the thirteenth Five Year Plan of TAR, an investment of 4.33 million yuan has been allotted to the “cultural development” of Tibet, according to a report from the TAR Culture Department. A total of 19 key projects out of 122 have been started, and most of the projects in Lhasa, Nyingtri, and Chamdo have been completed. Some have been put into operation. The report further stated that the construction of the Tibetan Qiang Yi Culture Corridor, constructions of parks with Chinese characteristics, a Tibet museum, Tibetan carpet centre, KMB Cultural Park, Tibetan Cultural Tourism Creative Park, Xiangxiong Cultural Industrial Park, Nyingtri Non-material Cultural Protection Complex Project, Creative Industry Development Zone Construction in Gyantse County, Tibet Cultural and Creative Industry Incubator Park and Product Promotion Platform, China National Music Industry Base Cultural Industry Park Project, Tibetan Mandala Cultural Park, Tibetan Culture and Creative Incubation Center, Saffron Cultural Expo Center and Meji Amusement Plaza are underway or partially completed.

‘Help Tibet, Help Xinjiang’ education program implemented, first batch of 4000 teachers to be sent

December 25, 2017

Ministry of Education, in conjunction with the National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Finance, Human resources and Social Security ministry, issued the "Implementation plan to Help Tibet, help Xinjiang million teachers’ support education program". First batch of 2018 with 4000 teachers will be send to Tibet, Xinjiang, Xinjiang production and construction Corps. Their teaching time is for 1.5 years.

Farewell to Cadres sent by Central Organization Department

January 10, 2018

The eighth batch of cadres sent by the Ministry of Education, under the Central Organization Department have graduated from the Tibet Nationalities University, a farewell was therefore organized in their favour by the University. TAR Party School Secretary and Vice President, Qu Zhu, Principal of Tibet Nationalities University, Liu Kai, TAR Organization Department head Jiaozhong Wu, Foreign Affairs Section Chief Deng Rui, and students and staff attended the farewell held on January 08, 2018.

In his speech Qu Zhu stated the eighth batch of cadres sent by the Central Organization Department, as part of the Tibet Aid Program is one of the manifestation of the implementation of General Secretary Xi Jinping's concept of good governance, particularly stabilizing the border areas. He further said "the cadres were sent to University since July 2016 and carried out aid work with political responsibilities. While doing so, they also created changes to the structure and functioning of Tibet Nationalities University." While at the Tibet Nationalities University, the cadres engaged in disciplinary construction, personal training and research in schools.

Regulator probes Marriott for violating China's cybersecurity law following Tibet incident

January 11, 2017

Chinese netizens called for an investigation of global hotel chain Marriott International for allegedly listing China's Tibet Autonomous Region as an independent country in an email sent to members, after a Twitter account affiliated to Marriott "liked" a "pro-independence of Tibet" tweet. Shanghai police said that the company is suspected of violating China's laws on cyber security and advertisements. Marriot Reward "liked" a tweet by the "Friends of Tibet," a Twitter account claiming to support a "free and independent Tibet." Marriot Reward is responsible for managing the membership of Marriott Inc. It has not said whether an individual made the move. A netizen named "Zhongjusaodi" said that Marriott International sent a questionnaire via email to its elite members for feedback on its service and asked them to choose their country. The list included the Chinese mainland, China's Tibet, Macao, Hong Kong and Taiwan. The government of Huangpu district in Shanghai released a notice on its Sina Weibo account saying that "the regulator on Cyberspace Affairs and Market Supervision Bureau in Huangpu have noticed the Marriott International listing Tibet as a country and had a meeting with its heads."

The regulators asked the company to withdraw the content in question, and conduct an overall check on information released online and on its app. It also asked the hotel chain to give a timely response to public concerns, make corrections on different channels and try its best to erase any bad influence. "The Market Supervision Bureau in Huangpu has filed a case to investigate the incident. The hotel chain is suspected of violating China's Cybersecurity Law and Advertisement Law," read the notice. Marriott Reward released a statement on its Sina Weibo account, apologizing for the incident.

TAR held Comprehensive Management Meeting

January 5, 2018

TAR Party Secretary Wu Yingjie, Deputy Party Secretary of TAR Party Committee and Chairman of TAR People's Government, Choedak (Ch: Qi Zhala), and other Municipal Commission and Administrative Offices signed a letter of responsibility in a meeting held recently. Deputy Secretary of TAR Party Committee and Chairman of TAR People's Congress Lobsang Gyaltzen presided over the meeting while Deputy Secretary of TAR Party Committee; Ding Ye read the commendation decision. Member of the Standing Committee of TAR Party Committee, Secretary of TAR Politics and Law Committee, and Director of the TAR Comprehensive Treatment Commission gave a speech.

TAR Party Committee Deputy Secretary, TAR Party members and members of the Standing Committee like Norbu Dhondup, Zeng Wanming, Jiang Jie and Pema Wangdui attended the meeting. Hei Wenhao said, "During the past few years, the party, government organizations and Comprehensive Management Departments at all levels in TAR have thoroughly studied and implemented the spirit of the CCP's Party Congresses of CCP. He further added, "The management of the grass roots has become far more elaborate, and more satisfactory to the masses. The Tibet Autonomous Region is more peaceful than before under the rule of law."

Hei Wenhao demanded that the Comprehensive Management of TAR should study and implement Xi Jinping's socialism with Chinese characteristics. He emphasized the importance of improving the comprehensive management system and said that they must focus on the interest of all and make effort to ensure social stability. It is necessary to improve and perfect the system of leadership responsibility and rewards and punishments so as to provide strong guarantees for the comprehensive strengthening of comprehensive management (safe construction).

New Officer for TAR Party Committee

January 7, 2018

On 6th January, officials from Tibet announced that Xu Yongren is a member of the Party Committee of the Tibet Autonomous Region. So far, there are 14 members in the CPC Tibet Autonomous Region Party Committee and there is still a vacancy.

Xu Yong Ren was born in 1959 in Shaanxi Baoji. He participated in the Sino Vietnamese war. He served as monitor, battle commander and chief of staff in the army camp. He was awarded the rank of Major General in 2007. He was commander of the Tibet Military Region in July 2013 and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General the following year. Since November 2016, there have been changes in the terms of the Provincial Party Committees of the various provinces. The leaders of military departments at the provisional level were no longer allowed to enter the Standing Committee. After the general election, its spare position for " Standing Committee" was left to be filled. At the beginning of 2018, more than 10 provinces, such as Beijing, Anhui, Shandong and Liaoning, returned their "Ordinary People's Armed Forces," one after another.

Yumai Town of Tibet connected to National Grid

January 01, 2018

According to local authorities of the TAR Party Committee, the rural township of Yumai, in Longzi County of Lhoka (Ch: Shannan), has been connected to the state electricity grid, ending life without electricity for its 32 residents. The 15-kilometer 10-kilovolt-power line, which took five months to complete, is connected remotely to Yumai via 108 electric poles over a 5,000-meter-high mountain, according to a contractor of the Xining-based Electric Power Company in neighbouring Qinghai Province.

Yumai has an average elevation of 3,650 meters above sea level and its population was once just a three-member household. Currently, it has nine households. In 2008, the local government built a small hydropower station, but the project failed to meet increasing power demands of the residents. The township came to the attention of the authorities when a family wrote to President Xi Jinping during the 19th Party Congress.

Shanghai to send tourists to Tibet

January 15, 2018

Shanghai will send 1.1 million tourists to Tibet over the next three years. The Shanghai and Tibet tourism authorities signed the plan on January 12. The Shanghai-Tibet partnership is part of a nationwide plan launched by the National Tourism Administration last December, which plans to send

more than 20 million tourists to Tibet from 2018 to 2020, said Wang Songping, Head of the Tibet Tourism Development Committee.

According to data from China's major telecom operators, over 5 million tourists from the Yangtze River Delta region have visited Tibet every year on average, and the figure is projected to reach 7 million in 2018.

NGARI (CH: ALI)

Ngari Police Officers “visit” Local Tibetan Households

January 11, 2017

Tibet Armed Police in the Ngari Border Detachment inspected households of the local people reportedly to “cement a harmonious relationship between police/military forces and the civilians.” The Police Officers and soldiers met local Tibetans, and explained the spirit of the 19th Party Congress and policies of the TAR.

Propaganda Department held a meeting for the village Cadres

January 11, 2018

The Vice Chairman of TAR Propaganda Department Jamyang Tsering held a meeting for the seventh batch of village cadres in Ngari (ch: Ali) to make work arrangements. He iterated the spirit of the 19th Party Congress, also one of the work requirements of the village cadres, and directed the cadres several instructions which were as follows:

1. To eat and laugh with the villagers so as to grasp public opinion clearly
2. To educate, explain to and show the villagers that the CCP and TAR Party Committee are working for the interest and benefit of the people
3. To maintain stability of the villages, to understand people’s opinions on the party, and build a closer relationship between the people and the cadres

Jamyang Tsering emphasised that the role of village cadres are important, and that with guidelines from the CCP Central Propaganda Department, the TAR Propaganda Department should make sure the village cadres are working hard to fulfil requirements.

NYINGTRI NEWS (CH: NYINGCHI)

Women delegation from Nepal's Pokhara to Nyingtri

December 29, 2017

Recently, a delegation of women from Pokhara, Nepal visited Nyingtri and held talks with women representatives from the Municipal Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, the Propaganda Department of the CCP Shanghai Municipal Committee, the Women's Federation of Guangdong Province, and the Agrin Farmers and Herdsmen Cooperatives.

At the meeting, Head of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office reviewed the exchanges between the two cities in building their friendship and friendship over the past 9 years. Suna Yana, Head of Women's Delegation in Pokhara and a standing member of Nepal-China Friendship Association (Pokhara) said, “she had witnessed a beautiful Nyingchi with great environment, national unity, social harmony and economic development. Suna Yana emphasized that Nepal has always respected the One-China policy and firmly opposes any terrorist activity taking place on its territory.” The China and Nepal Friendship Association (Pokhara) agreed to make further efforts to strengthen friendly relations with Nyingtri and promote the continuous development of bilateral relations.

Propaganda Minister visits villagers on New Year

January 09, 2018

Member of Nyingtri Party Committee and vice minister of Propaganda Department, Zhang Haibo made “special visits” to Gongpo Gyamda County, Nang county and Bome County on New Year, where he met with the villagers. According to sources from the Municipal Government, his visit was to “help poor families and let the villagers know about the implementation of poverty relief measures” Rice, oil and blankets were reportedly given on behalf of the party committee.

During the visit, Zhang Haibo also listened to the presentation of the poverty alleviation work report by township and village cadres at two levels. He carefully examined the registration of poverty alleviation. He further said that getting rid of poverty is an important political task of the party. Thus, cadres in the township and at the village level should work hard to achieve the goal.

City Industrial and Commercial Bureau to carry out "plastic limit" work

January 04, 2018

It was notified that Nyingtri City Industrial and Commercial Bureau is ready to carry out "plastic limit" work. In 2017, a total of 79 enforcement vehicles and 213 crewmembers were dispatched to inspect 11 farmer's markets. More than 1,000 green shopping bags were distributed. This organization confiscated more than 2000 bags in order to regulate the sale and use of plastic bags.

Nyingchi City grain reserves, oil processing and emergency supply distribution center relocation project is progressing well

January 5, 2018

It is reported that the construction of three-grain reserves in Nyingtri is underway and is expected to be completed by August 2018. These three are grain, oil processing and emergency supply of the grains, has a total investment of 113 million yuan, located in the city railway station area. The size of the construction area is 200 mu, 6 new flat warehouse (total storage capacity of 36,000 tons) and ancillary facilities started in March 2017.

SHIGATSE NEWS (CH: XIGAZE)

Award ceremony for "role models"

January 3, 2018

On the afternoon of 27th December 2017, Shigatse Municipal Party Committee held a meeting to discuss the building of monasteries with patriotic monks and nuns. The meeting held via videoconference awarded role model monks and nuns, Temple/Monastery Management Committees/cadres for their "outstanding religious work." The mobilization of monks and nuns was emphasized at the meeting. Mayor of Municipal Committee Liu Hushan attended and spoke. Municipal People's Congress Standing Committee Secretary, Party School principal Cheng Sichu, Municipal Committee, Deputy Mayor Xu Xianguo and Wang Xiangmin were also present at the meeting. Liu Hushan, on behalf of the Municipal Party Committee and Municipal People's Government extended warm congratulations to the honorary monasteries, patriotic law-abiding monasteries and advanced temple

management officials/cadres. He spoke on improving religion and socialist society and added, “Good religion should support the Chinese Communist Party and also should work hard to unite the country.”

Delegation from Beijing to Shigatse

January 05, 2018

On the afternoon of 3rd January, the Municipal Government of Shigatse held a forum to exchange views with the visiting delegation from Beijing’s Jingdong Century Information Technology Co. Ltd. The focus of the discussion was on marketing and sales of special agricultural products of Tibet. Deputy Mayor of Shigatse Municipal Committee, Jiang Guojie attended the meeting. At the meeting, the General Manager of Raw Meat Business Unit and Meat and Poultry Business Department of Jingdong Group Wang Zhiqiang introduced the purpose of the study. He further showed interest in strengthening cooperation with Shigatse in selling special agricultural products of Tibet to Jingdong mainland malls. Jiang Guojie pointed out that a good transport system facilitates the selling of agricultural and sideline products of the plateau to the Mainland. He spoke of the importance of improving roads and markets. He also expressed that there are more areas of cooperation to extend e-commerce and storage systems as well. According to him, such cooperation with Jingdong helps in poverty alleviation of the plateau.

Vice Mayor Li Yujian said that Shigatse will provide the best services and the most favorable policies to support the project construction of Jingdong Group in Shigatse. He hoped that there would be larger projects in the Jingdong city, which may help to fulfill the requirements of building the Jingdong Integrated Industrial base. It is learned that on the morning of the same day, a delegation from Jingdong conducted a field investigation on products such as potatoes, rapeseed oil, Xiongma Township Tibetan chicken and other products in Sakya County.

Shigatse CPPCC held its 12th Standing Committee meeting

January 12, 2018

On the afternoon of January 11, the 12th Shigatse Municipal CPPCC Standing Committee meeting was held and was attended by Chairman Phurbu. Municipal People's Political Consultative Conference Vice President Gyatsen Nyendak, Penpa, Sontse, Chiu Lin also attended the meeting.

The meeting reviewed and approved relevant personnel issues and held a donation ceremony of literary and historical materials. Some organizations were honored for collecting historical and cultural information. These honored organizations include The CPPCC national committee, post-Tibetan Clothing and Shigatse CPPCC Historical Materials.

Further, Phurbu suggested that others should work for the improvement of the Shigatse's CPPCC textbooks and historical materials. He also said that they should work hard to enhance the understanding of CPPCC historical and literary data. He believes that correct data collection would enhance the cultural and historical data workforce.

Activities of Tibetans inside and Abroad

Exile administration to open new Tibet Museum by Aug 2018

January 14, 2018

Calling the raising of awareness about Tibet pivotal to strengthening international support for Tibet, the exiled Tibetan Administration at Dharmashala, India, is to open a new Tibet Museum in a new building, currently under construction, at the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) Secretariat. President Lobsang Sangay of the CTA announced the plan at a press conference on Jan 12.

“The new museum will also serve as a center of truth that will convey the tragic fate of Tibet and would let the visitors experience the destruction and the suffering that Tibetans went through under Chinese occupation,” President Sangay was quoted as saying. He called on Tibetans to donate for the project whose cost has been put at Rs 60 million, which is nearly one million US dollars. The new building, the Tibet Building, is expected to be completed during July-August this year, and, with it, the development of the new Museum.

China reprimands companies calling Tibet and Taiwan independent

January 15, 2018

Chinese regulators have publicly reprimanded a string of foreign corporations, including Qantas, Zara and Marriott, for labelling Tibet and Taiwan as independent countries, in online drop-down menus.

Beijing's action and the ire it stirred among Chinese towards multinationals illustrate the pressures such groups face as they look to appease an increasingly nationalistic and powerful Chinese consumer market. "We welcome foreign corporations' investment and operation in China," said Lu Kang, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at a regular press briefing last week. "Meanwhile, they should respect China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, abide by China's laws and respect the Chinese people's feelings."

On 15th January, the Australian airline Qantas publicly resolved to correct a drop-down menu that identified Taiwan as a country after it was named and shamed in an investigation by Shanghai-based state media outlet The Paper which found 24 foreign airlines that purportedly listed Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan as sovereign entities.

Verdict pending in Tibetan language activist's alleged separatism trial

January 07, 2018

A prefectural court in Qinghai Province of the People's Republic of China (PRC) has on Jan 4 tried a Tibetan language rights activist for allegedly inciting separatism. However, the court has not pronounced an immediate verdict at the end of the trial, which was reported to have lasted four hours. The verdict is expected to be announced at a later date by the Yushu Intermediate People's Court who held an oral hearing of the case. The case of Tashi Wangchuk, 32, had come up for trial after a leave of withdrawal for the purpose of further investigation.

Liang Xiaojun, Tashi Wangchuk's lawyer, has said on Twitter that a New York Times video titled 'A Tibetan's Journey to Justice', which had led to his arrest on Jun 27, 2016, was presented as the main evidence to seek a guilty verdict against him. However, in that video, and the accompanying article, the activist only speaks about the Tibetan people's right to inherit, learn, and use their own language as guaranteed by the constitution of the PRC.

-----**END OF REPORT**-----